



**21 September 2025**

## **Matthew Apostle and Evangelist**



Welcome to  
St Barnabas' in Pound Hill and  
St Nicholas' in Worth.

This sheet details the readings in today's  
services as well as notices for everyone.

### **SERVICES TODAY**

Certain services will still be available  
online (live or recorded)

08:15 Said Eucharist (BCP)	St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Gordon Parry
10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Sarah Upchurch
10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Celebrant	Fr Michael Boag
Preacher	Seb Pelissier
13:00 Baptism	St Barnabas'

Please try our QR code to  
donate to Worth Parish.  
Scan this code with a  
smartphone to take you  
straight to a giving page.



### **Payments to the Parish**

If you possibly can, please transfer the money  
by electronic payment to: Parish of Worth  
Poundhill & Maidenbower, sort code 40-18-22,  
account 61223372.

If you need help, call the Office.

Today we celebrate the Feast of St Matthew. We know that he was a Jewish tax collector. Indeed, known also as Levi, he was busy at his work dealing with taxes in Capernaum when Jesus called him with a simple "Follow me." And this he did, leaving his books and ledgers - to become one of the Twelve Apostles, a Gospel writer and an Evangelist.

Matthew's Gospel is unique in providing us with Jesus' family tree from Abraham, through the generations, right down to his mother Mary and his birth. Indeed, his Gospel forms the connecting link between the Old and the New Testaments because of the emphasis on the fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies. Because of his closeness to Jesus, he gives us insight as to who Jesus was - especially to his Jewish readers, some of whom feared an upheaval because of Jesus' teachings. He challenged them quoting Jesus: "Do not think I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them." (5.17)

The main purpose of Matthew's Gospel account was to present to his generation, and indeed to us, the clear evidence that Jesus is the Messiah, the Saviour.

May we be inspired by Matthew's story of his transformation from a despised tax collector to Apostle and Gospel writer and to serve as a reminder to each one of us that God's call can come to us when we least expect it.

*Fr Francis*

## Collect

O Almighty God, whose blessed Son called Matthew the tax collector to be an apostle and evangelist: give us grace to forsake the selfish pursuit of gain and the possessive love of riches that we may follow in the way of your Son Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

## Reading *Proverbs 3.13-18*

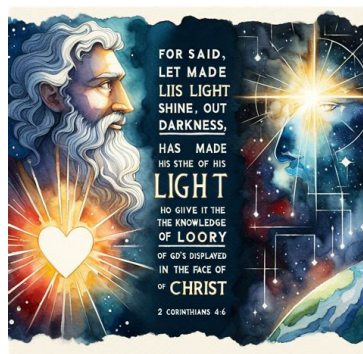


Happy are those who find wisdom, and those who get

understanding, for her income is better than silver, and her revenue better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her. Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honour. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called happy.

## Reading *2 Corinthians 4.1-6*

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus



Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

## Gospel *Matthew 9.9-13*



As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the

tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

## Post Communion

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Toddlers Group** meets on Tues 13:00-15:00 and Thurs 9:00-11:00, in St Barnabas' Hall in term time.

**The Hangout**  
Youth Club at St Barnabas' meets  
Every **Friday** at 19:00

## SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 23 Sep	10:30 Said Eucharist 12:30 Funeral Gwen Johnson	St Barnabas' St Barnabas'
Wed 24 Sep	15:00 Messy Church	St Barnabas'
Thur 25 Sep	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sun 28 Sep	8:15 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Child Friendly Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist 12:00 Baptism 14:00 Pet Service 18:30 Sunday Space for You	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas' St Nicholas' St Nicholas' St Barnabas'

**Sunday 28 September 2025**

**Michael and All Angels**

Genesis 28.10-17

Revelation 12.7-12 John 1.47-51

Come and see, a song and a prayer, followed by pizza and lollies.

In September the second Messy Church will be on

**Wed 24 Sept; 15:00-16:30**, at St Barnabas'.

This month: The parable of the foolish farmer - appreciating needs v wants.

Everyone welcome - mums, dads, grandparents, carers - come and have fun!



## Parish Prayer Group

**Wed 24 Sep 19:00** at St Barnabas'. Please join us at St Barnabas' as we pray for our Parish, its clergy and its outreach.

## Friday Lunches

Friday lunch on **26 September** in The Café at 12:30. Two courses and a drink £7.00. To help with catering please book your place at the Café (café open Wed and Sat) or via the Parish Office, by **Wed 24 September**. Profits for Parish funds.

The lunches are for everyone, why not bring a friend and give us a try. All welcome!

## Mothers' Union

Mothers' Union meeting on the **Thu 25 Sept** in the Café at 15:45. Speaker: Revd Sarah talking about chaplaincy for the Army Cadets. Followed by tea & biscuits & Compline.

ALL ARE VERY WELCOME.

Sometimes Sunday afternoons can be a bit lonely! Come and join us next **Sunday 28** at St Barnabas' at Pound Hill Shops for a whole afternoon and evening:

First a Free **Tea Party** 16:00-18:00 with dancing entertainment.

Then we move into a calming **Meditation and Relaxation** session 18:30-19:30 to prepare us for the week ahead - bring a cushion & blanket. Come to one or the other or both!

All welcome - we'd especially love to reach older neighbours and friends in the community, or those who might not have the chance to socialise much over a weekend - PLEASE bring someone along to join in the fun!

## Festivals this week

Thur 25 Sep	Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, Spiritual Writer 1626 (LF)  Sergei of Radonezh, Russian Monastic Reformer, Teacher 1392 (C)
Fri 26 Sep	Wilson Carlile, Founder of the Church Army 1942 (C)
Sat 27 Sep	Vincent de Paul, Founder of the Congregation of the Mission (Lazarists) 1660 (LF)

(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration

**The Prayer Course** begins on the **27 Sept** in the Café at St Barnabas' 13:30 for a 14:00 start. Then 4, 11, 25 Oct, 1, 8, 22 and final one on 29 Nov. Certain Wednesdays may be available for catch ups or for those who cannot make Saturdays, talk to Sarah for clarification.

## St Nicholas' Circle

Next meets on **Wed 1 Oct** 19:30 for 20:00 at St Barnabas' Café. Liz Gallagher will speak on the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham.

## Saturday Market

**4 Oct**, 10:00-11:30, in St Barnabas' Café; come and find a bargain and enjoy refreshments too. In aid of St Barnabas' Refurbishment Fund. All welcome.

Everybody welcome! This is your invitation to **Harvest Shared Lunch** on **5 Oct** at St Barnabas' when we will cut the ribbon for our new Church Entrance and celebrate 70 years of St Barnabas' in Pound Hill! Look out for sign-up sheets.....

## Dogs Behaving Very Badly

My name's Sam, and I'm one of the Producers at Avalon UK, a television production company based in London. We're currently trying to find dog owners with grooming-related questions that we can feature in one of our returning series for Channel 5. If selected, then the owners will visit an award-winning groomer alongside our presenter to have their questions answered. The filming is scheduled to take place in Sussex, not far from the Church over the next couple of months.

The series revolves around dog trainer Graeme Hall helping people across the country with any behavioural-related issue. This non-behavioural, grooming focused segment is a new element for the next series and not something we'd done before.

If selected to take part, then there's no fee for the grooming, but people would have to be happy to appear on camera.

Anyone interested in submitting a question can do so by emailing [questions@avalonuk.com](mailto:questions@avalonuk.com)

## Autumn Fair.

The autumn fair is being held on Sat 1 Nov 11:00-14:00 at St Barnabas'. Any ideas for stalls and activities would be very welcome. A date to discuss plans for the fair will be made later, all welcome to attend. *Jane Stanford*

## Recycling

We continue to recycle **milk bottle tops**. Containers are now available in the Narthex and on Sue's doorstep. Please deliver **by the end of SEPTEMBER**.

We also collect used postage **stamps** (for the Hospice) and used **printer cartridges** (for McIndoe); please deliver to the Narthex. Our recent collection of printer cartridges raised £14.45 for McIndoe. Thank you!

## CONTACTS

### The Rector

Fr Michael Boag 01293 882229  
rector@worthparish.org (Tues-Sun)

### Vicar at St Barnabas'

Revd Sarah Upchurch 01293 524804  
vicarstb@worthparish.org (Tues-Sun)

### Assistant Priest

Revd Canon Penny Foreman  
[michaelzanny@btinternet.com](mailto:michaelzanny@btinternet.com)

### Assistant Priest

Revd Gordon Parry 07802 432398  
[gordonmwperry@btinternet.com](mailto:gordonmwperry@btinternet.com)

### Assistant Priest

Fr Francis Pole 07764 752608  
[francis.pole@virgin.net](mailto:francis.pole@virgin.net)

### Churchwardens

David Anderson (St B) 01293 409914  
[stbwarden@worthparish.org](mailto:stbwarden@worthparish.org)  
Colin Smith (St N) 01293 889894

### Worth Parish Office

Sue Perry 0300 111 8150  
[office@worthparish.org](mailto:office@worthparish.org)



[www.facebook.com/worthparish](http://www.facebook.com/worthparish)



[www.twitter.com/worthparish](http://www.twitter.com/worthparish)



[www.worthparish.org](http://www.worthparish.org)